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ASSOCIATION OF
AMERICAN RAILROADS
OFFICE OF INFORMATION AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WASHINGTON, October 30, 1980 -- Freight traffic on major U.S. railroads during the week ended October 25 totaled an estimated 18.7 billion ton-miles, 4.2 percent below the corresponding week a year ago, the Association of American Railroads reported today.

Cumulative volume for the first 43 weeks of 1980 was an estimated 758 billion ton-miles, 0.5 percent above the comparable period of last year.

Carloadings in the week ended October 25 totaled 458,007 cars, 6.8 percent below 1979, but 1.8 percent higher than the preceding week of this year. Compared with last year, loadings were down 5.1 percent in the East, 4.5 percent in the South, and 9.2 percent in the West.

Compared with the corresponding week of 1979, 19 of the 21 commodity groups were down; however, coal loadings were up 2,460 cars, or 2.1 percent. Fifteen of the 21 groups were up from the preceding week of this year.

Piggyback

The AAR also reported that piggyback revenue freight traffic on major railroads for the week ended October 18 totaled 32,915 cars, down 14.4 percent from the corresponding week of 1979, and 59,241 trailers and/or containers, 13.2 percent lower than last year.

The cumulative volume of TOFC/COFC traffic for the first 42 weeks of the year was 1,348,012 cars, 10.8 percent lower than last year, and 2,449,353 trailers and/or containers, down 8.2 percent.

(more)

Following are carloadings of major railroads, by commodity groups, for the week ended 10/25/80:

	Loadings in Week ended October 25, 1980		Change from Corresponding Week 1979			Change from Preceding Week	
	Cars		Cars	Percent		Cars	Percent
Grain	33,067	I	504	1.5	D	1,194	3.5
Other farm products	5,501	D	599	9.8	D	427	7.2
Metallic ores	26,553	D	6,101	18.7	D	66	0.2
Coal	119,572	I	2,460	2.1	I	3,703	3.2
Crushed stone, gravel and sand	15,077	D	2,618	14.8	D	176	1.2
Nonmetallic minerals	15,031	D	2,543	14.5	I	250	1.7
Grain mill products	17,659	D	1,304	6.9	I	899	5.4
Food and kindred products	18,616	D	1,448	7.2	I	581	3.2
Primary forest products	19,550	D	2,027	9.4	I	50	0.3
Lumber and wood products except furniture	9,471	D	1,813	16.1	I	277	3.0
Pulp, paper and allied products	20,222	D	1,796	8.2	I	805	4.1
Chemicals and allied products	27,967	D	143	0.5	I	338	1.2
Petroleum products	5,325	D	646	10.8	D	346	6.1
Stone, clay and glass products	15,829	D	3,877	19.7	I	341	2.2
Coke	5,355	D	440	7.6	I	185	3.6
Metals and products	15,815	D	1,765	10.0	I	2,011	14.6
Motor vehicles and equipment	19,433	D	2,485	11.3	I	346	1.8
Waste and scrap materials	13,053	D	207	1.6	D	290	2.2
Forwarder and shipper association traffic	11,439	D	1,736	13.2	I	296	2.7
All other carloads	43,216	D	4,497	9.4	I	670	1.6
LCL traffic	256	D	171	40.0	I	11	4.5
Total Cars Loaded	458,007	D	33,252	6.8	I	8,264	1.8
Corresponding week of 1979	491,259						

	1980	1979	%	Change
Total Cars Loaded (43 weeks)	18,761,515	19,866,310	D	5.6
Estimated revenue ton-miles (in billions):				
42 weeks cumulative	738.9	734.5	I	0.6
Week ended October 25	18.7	19.5	D	4.2
43 weeks cumulative	757.6	754.0	I	0.5

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